

East Greenwich Fire District

284 Main Street

East Greenwich, Rhode Island 02818

Telephone: 401-886-8686 or Fax: 401-886-8692

Date: March 28, 2013

1. The regular monthly meeting of the East Greenwich Fire District was called to order on March 28, 2013, at 6:30p.m. by Stephen Bartlett, Vice-Chairman.

a. Chief Hendrickson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

2. Members Present Roll Call

b. Stephen Bartlett, Vice Chairman

c. Mark W. Gee, Commissioner

d. Mark Schwager, Commissioner

e. Philip Higgins, Commissioner

Other Members Present

a. Peter Henrikson, Chief

b. Russell McGillivray, Deputy Chief

c. Kevin Hundley, Treasurer - arrived at 7:10 for regular meeting

d. Scott Spear, Legal Counsel

e. Janice J. Peixinho, Fire District Clerk

Members Absent: William Daly, Commissioner

3. Commissioner Bartlett determined a quorum on record.

4. Commissioner Gee 1st moved to convene into Executive Session in accordance with RIGL §44-46-4 and §44-46-5(a)(1)(2), to discuss grievance 2013-001, Commissioner Schwager 2nd, Vote 4-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett – yes, Higgins – yes and Schwager – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion carried.

Roll Call: Commissioners Bartlett, Gee, Higgins and Schwager.

Also Present: Chief, Deputy Chief, Legal Counsel Spear and Clerk Peixinho.

Lt. Mark Collins, President Perry, Rep. Joseph Angioli, Michael Jones. Clerk asked if Mr. Collins would like his hearing open to the public or closed he stated “closed”.

Commissioner Gee moved to reconvene into open session and to keep the minutes sealed regarding the grievance 2013-001, Commissioner Higgins 2nd, Vote 4-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett – yes, Higgins – yes and Schwager – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion carried.

Commissioner Bartlett entertained a motion to open the regular

meeting at 7:10 with a roll call vote. Commissioners Gee, Bartlett, Higgins, Schwager, Chief, Deputy Chief, Legal Counsel Spear, Treasurer Hundley and District Clerk Peixinho.

Absent: Commissioner Daly.

5. Public Comment

Michael Jones, EGFD FF asked about the Captain's exam with the potential of two (2) promotions to Captain's position. He stated that it was not done in a timely manner and that he was requesting the Commissioners extend the time so that others could study to take the exam. He asked for a 90 day extension because if other employees within the Fire District had known of the two (2) potential openings more candidates would have signed up to take the test. Union President then stated that private information had been given to some candidates but not to others, he stated that he had no knowledge and he was not privileged to that information. Commissioner Gee asked when the next opportunity would be and President Perry stated three (3) years. There was a brief discussion amongst the members, President Perry and Mark Jones. Commissioner Higgins motioned to extend the test for Captains for 90 days, Commissioner Schwager 2nd, Legal Counsel Spear stated that it was public comment, it was not on the agenda and no vote could be taken. Commissioner Higgins withdrew the motion and Legal Counsel stated that the Chief could exercise his own judgment to extend the time another 90 days. Commissioner Higgins stated that he wants the best person for the

position, there would be no harm done by extending the deadline, Commissioner Schwager agreed and stated that he would like to extend the opportunity for professional development. No other discussion.

6. Consent Agenda

a. Treasurer's Report (refer to Year to Date: February 28, 2013)

The Treasurer stated that the current year tax collections totaled \$3,388,000.00 through March 22, 2013. There is approximately \$108,000.00 or 3.2% of taxes received for the first three quarters, which is down from \$133,000.00 or 4.2% from prior years. Other revenues were tracking as expected. Treasurer Hundley stated that it appeared that collateral pay may include some dispatch pay and that he was still reviewing the allocations and would reclass the appropriations next month. He stated that the apparatus and equipment maintenance account was over budget by approximately \$170,000.00. Commissioner Higgins questioned the Treasurer regarding the District accounts, who was the point of contact for the investments and who determines making investments. Treasurer Hundley stated that the accounts are with Merrill Lynch and the Commissioners make the decisions on where and how much is invested. Treasurer Hundley stated that the board made the decision because of the capital project, purchasing the rescue and that the board members did not want to take the risk. No other discussion.

Analysis of Reserve Accounts:

Impact Fee Account	\$481,288.05
Capital Projects Account	\$988,612.95
Smokes Account	\$ 6,571.69
Rose Trust	\$238,383.76
OPEB Reserve	\$148,902.00

Commissioner Gee 1st, moved to accept the Treasurers report as presented, Commissioner Higgins 2nd, Vote 4-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett – yes, Higgins – yes and Schwager – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion carried.

b. Chief's Report (Refer to Chief's report dated: March 22, 2013)

The Chief's report consisted of;

- Manpower readiness levels (Lt. working on light duty and one (1) FF out with an elbow injury for over seven (7) months)**
- Safety Officer – no report**
- Capital Projects (dropped off purchase and sales agreement to DOT)**
- Incidents (carbon monoxide emergency – Signal Ridge)**
- Apparatus – no report**
- Training – no report**
- Dive Team – no report**
- EMS (Deputy conducting in house training on SIOP's, EKG review,**

initial size up)

- **Health & Wellness – no report**
- **General (had a presentation at NEIT from architectural program on potential new station design)**
- **Personnel-related matters – no report**
- **Monthly Statistics for January 2013 – report attached.**

The Chief stated that the DPW would assist the Fire District in developing an “RFP” for the floor at Station one (1). Also, Commissioner Gee asked for the report on the number of calls, incidents etc., he stated that this report was given in the past and the members have not received the updated report. In addition the Chief stated that the one (1) FF in training in Barrington would complete the training as of 05/12/2013.

Commissioner Gee 1st moved to accept the Chief’s report as presented, Commissioner Schwager 2nd, Vote 4-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett – yes, Higgins – yes and Schwager – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion carried.

7. New Business

a. Discuss and Vote upon what action, if any, regarding written proposal to amend Section 16 of the By-Laws of the FD to change the process by which potential Commissioners can be nominated from the floor at the annual meeting.

Legal Counsel Spear stated that he received an email from Commissioner Gee regarding Charter changes. He said that it was possible to make the changes but this was not the right time to introduce the changes. He said the Charter changes would need to be introduced to the General Assembly to be approved. Commissioner Gee spoke about Commissioners being elected the same as Town Council and would like to have it done at the same time in November. He spoke about the nomination process, the nominating committee, when the nominations take place and that most taxpayers do not know that the election of Commissioner's is in June of each year. He also spoke about the process at the meeting and if a certain crowd of people could stack the meeting and nominate someone from the floor, the person put forward from the nominating committee would not have a chance for the open position. The Clerk stated that she advertised the vacancies of the Commissioners for two (2) weeks in two (2) different local papers. Commissioner Gee stated that he was not in favor of the proposed amendment changes to the By-Laws Section 16, "a" and "b", any person who has an interest in serving as a FC must apply through the NC and only those people who have applied through the NC may be nominated from the floor. No other discussion.

Commissioner Bartlett entertained a motion 1st, to have a public hearing on April 25th, for the By-Law changes, Section 16, "a" and "b" as presented, Commissioner Higgins, 2nd, Vote 3-1, Gee-Nay, Bartlett – yes, Higgins – yes and Schwager – yes, motion carried.

Clerk was asked to advertise the public hearing meeting for April 25, 2013.

b. Update on the Nominating Committee

Clerk Peixinho stated that the Nominating Committee held interviews for the position of two (2) Commissioners on 03/19/2013. There were three (3) interviews and that she was waiting to hear from the Chairman on the names being nominated for the two (2) positions. The clerk stated that both positions are for 3 years each. No other discussion.

8. Old Business:

Discuss/Consider or Act Upon with Decision

a. Discuss and Vote upon what action, if any, regarding disability pension benefits

update from Legal Counsel - tabled

b. Discuss and Vote upon what action, if any, going out to bid for an Auditor.

The Chief stated that they will advertise for a three (3) year term with conditions.

Commissioner Gee 1st, moved to advertise for a District Auditor, Commissioner Higgins 2nd, Vote 4-0 Gee-yes, Bartlett – yes, Higgins

– yes and Schwager – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion carried.

9. Minutes of the previous meetings

Approve February 24, 2013

Commissioner Higgins 1st, moved to accept the minutes as presented, Commissioner Schwager 2nd, Vote 4-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett – yes, Higgins – yes and Schwager – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion carried.

10. Public Comment - none

11. Executive Session

Commissioner Bartlett entertained a motion to convene into Executive Session in accordance with RIGL §42-46-4 and §42-46-5(a)(1)(2) to Discuss/Consider or Act upon with decision on the sealed minutes of January 24th, and February 21, 2013 and (b) the update of Contract Negotiations with Local 3328 and (c) the request for actuarial pension analysis for administrative personnel, Commissioner Gee 1st, and Commissioner Higgins 2nd, Vote 4-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett – yes, Higgins – yes and Schwager – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion carried.

Commissioner Higgins 1st moved to reconvene the Board into open session and to keep the minutes sealed for a) the request for sealed

minutes of January 24th, and February 21, 2013, b) the update of Contract Negotiations with Local 3328 and c) the request for actuarial pension analysis for administrative personnel, Commissioner Schwager 2nd, Vote 4-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett – yes, Higgins – yes and Schwager – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion carried.

Roll Call: Commissioners Bartlett, Gee, Higgins and Schwager.

Also Present: Chief, Deputy Chief, Legal Counsel Spear and Clerk Peixinho.

12. Adjournment

Commissioner Higgins 1st moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45, Commissioner Gee 2nd, Vote 4-0, Gee-yes, Bartlett – yes, Higgins – yes and Schwager – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion carried.

Attest:

A true copy;

Respectfully submitted,

Janice J. Peixinho

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EGF District Clerk